

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) system includes an internal electrode placed in the right ventricle of the heart, and a quasi-Faraday cage (which includes a single or multiple electrodes) placed over a significant portion of the heart. Defibrillation shocks are applied between the internal electrode in the ventricle and the electrode(s) of the quasi-Faraday cage. Because the quasi-Faraday cage surrounds a significant portion of the heart, it functions as a quasi-Faraday cage and is capable of confining a significant portion of the defibrillation shock field to the heart itself so as to reduce pain. Application of shocks is thus less painful to the patient.